

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SSO-00
INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PRS-01 H-01 /050 W
-----280752Z 005236 /12

O 280718Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7407

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, SN, US

SUBJECT: CIVAIR -- RESPONSE TO MINISTER HON'S REMARKS

REF: (A) SINGAPORE 1185 (B) STATE 66986

FOR EB/IMS AND EB/AN

1. TEXT OF PROPOSED LETTER FROM AMBASSADOR TO FINANCE MINISTER HON FOLLOWS: EMBASSY BELIEVES SECTION DISCUSSING PHILIPPINE AND INDONESIAN AIR RIGHTS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE THIS WAS EXAMPLE HON USED TO SUPPORT HIS CHARGE OF INSINCERITY AND BECAUSE HE INACCURATELY CHARACTERIZED PROPOSAL AS "DEMAND." LETTER INCORPORATING DEPARTMENT'S POINTS RATHER THAN EMBASSY'S ORIGINAL CONCEPT OF MORE GENERAL REPLY SHOULD, EMBASSY THINKS, INCLUDE THIS MATTER.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MINISTER HON: I READ WITH SOME SURPRISE THE MARCH 22 PRESS ACCOUNT OF YOUR DOUBTS, EXPRESSED IN PARLIAMENT, ABOUT THE SINCERITY OF THE U.S. CIVIL AVIATION DELEGATION AND, BY IMPLICATION, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IN DESIRING A CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT WITH SINGAPORE. I HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING BILATERAL CIVIL AVIATION ISSUES CLOSELY EVER SINCE MY ARRIVAL HERE ALMOST TWO YEARS AGO AND AM CONCERNED

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THAT OUR SINCERITY IN WANTING TO ARRIVE AT AN EQUITABLE, MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT SHOULD BE QUESTIONED AFTER BOTH OUR GOVERNMENTS HAVE PERSERVERED IN DISCUSSIONS FOR SO LONG. THE ISSUES ARE CERTAINLY COMPLEX AND DIFFICULT OF SOLOUTION, SO PERHAPS THE LENGTH OF TIME NEEDED TO FIND MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS IS NOT SURPRISING.

I BELIEVE, MR. MINISTER, THAT THERE IS AMPLE GROUND FOR ARRIVING AT AN AGREEMENT SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES. IN THE FIFTH ROUND OF TALKS LAST AUGUST AND AGAIN IN SINGAPORE LESS THAN A MONTH AGO, THE U.S. DELEGATION OFFERED SINGAPORE A VIABLE ROUTE TO THE UNITED STATES WEST COAST AND, IN FACT, THE CHAIRMAN OF OUR DELEGATION EXCEEDED HIS INSTRUCTION BOTH TIMES IN AN EFFORT TO ARRIVE AT AN AGREEMENT. THE QUESTION OF U.S. AIR RIGHTS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND INDONESIA WAS MOST CERTAINLY NOT A "DEMAND"; IT WAS ONE ITEM IN A PACKAGE PROPOSED BY THE U.S. DELEGATION CHAIRMAN DESIGNED TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF BOTH SIDES. THIS PACKAGE, WHICH INCLUDED A ROUTE VIA TOKYO, A WEST COAST TERMINUS AND FIFTH-FREEDOM CARGO RIGHTS AT HONG KONG FOR SINGAPORE, IS NEGOTIABLE.

THE U.S. CONSIDERS THE SINGAPORE INSISTENCE ON EXTENSIVE FIFTH-FREEDOM PASSENGER RIGHTS, HOWEVER, AS A REQUEST WHICH CREATES AN IMBALANCE OF OPPORTUNITY. A ROUTE WHICH INCLUDES RIGHTS RECIPROCAL TO THOSE WHICH SINGAPORE HAS GRANTED TO PAN AM IN THE PAST HAS BEEN OFFERED TO YOUR DELEGATION.

OUR DESIRE, MR. MINISTER, REMAINS AN AGREEMENT WHICH IS SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES AND IS REACHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

WE HAVE, I BELIEVE, BEEN RESPONSIVE TO SINGAPORE'S STATED NEED FOR SERVICE TO THE U.S. AND ARE CONVINCED THAT, WITH CONTINUED EFFORT, A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED. END TEXT.

3. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE ASAP; AMBASSADOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEPARTS ON HOME LEAVE MARCH 31.
HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, NEGOTIATIONS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, PRESS RELEASES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SINGAP01288
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770105-0563
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770315/aaaaamsx.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8d65a1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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TAGS: EAIR, SN, US
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